

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-07

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R 052154Z AUG 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMCONSUL CURACAO

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

INFO AMCONSUL BELIZE

AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY PANAMA

AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS:EWWT

SUBJECT: NAMUCAR

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REF: A) SAN JOSE 337;; B) SAN JOSE 0264

DEPARTMENT REPEATED REFTELS TO CURACAO.

1. DEPARTMENT IS INTERESTED IN RECEIVING AN UPDATE ON OPERATIONS OF NAVIERA MULTINACIONAL DEL CARIBE. BASIC QUESTIONS ARE:

A) HOW WELL IS NAMUCAR DOING COMMERCIALLY?

B. IS THERE EVIDENCE THAT NAMUCAR AND THE GOVERNMENTS WHICH ESTABLISHED IT ARE ACTING TO RESTRICT COMPETITION? WE WOULD BE PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN HEARING ABOUT ANY NEW EXAMPLES OF CARGO PREFERENCE IF THEY HAVE COME TO LIGHT. PLEASE SPECIFY HOW DISCRIMINATORY PRACTICES, IF THEY EXIST, ARE APPLIED TO LATIN AMERICAN PRIVATE CARRIERS, TO EUROPEAN FLAG LINES, AND TO U.S. FLAG LINES.

2. WE HAVE HEARD THAT NAMUCAR IS UNDERCUTTING THE PRICES OF ITS NON-GOVERNMENT COMPETITORS, AND REQUEST THAT ACTION ADDRESSEES DETERMINE IF THIS IS TRUE. AMCONGEN

CURACAO SHOULD CONTACT CAPT. FRIMANNUSLUND (PHONETIC) AT NOPAL CARIBBEAN LINES, WHO IS REPUTED TO BE VERY KNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT CARIBBEAN SHIPPING AND NAMUCAR.

3. AS ADDRESSEES AWARE, A NUMBER OF NAMUCAR STATES SOMEWHAT SENSITIVE ON THIS ISSUE. ACCORDINGLY, DISCRETION IS ADVISED IN OBTAINING INFORMATION. HABIB

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